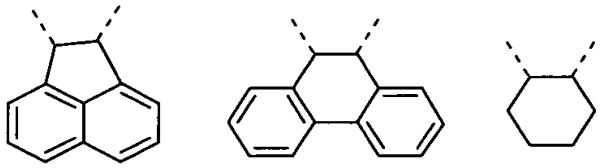
wherein M is Ni; X is Cl or Br; each of m and n is independently an integer from 0 to 100, respectively; R_1 and R_2 are the same or different, and are selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and tert-butyl; Y is CR_3R_4, wherein R_3 and R_4 are the same or different, and are selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and phenyl, or R_3 and R_4 forming a cyclic alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 are the same or different, and are selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl and heterocyclic group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula or a mixture thereof:



REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are in the case. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter is believed to be introduced.

No fee, other than that for the extension of time, is believed due for the filing of this response. Should any fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 11, 2001

24,576

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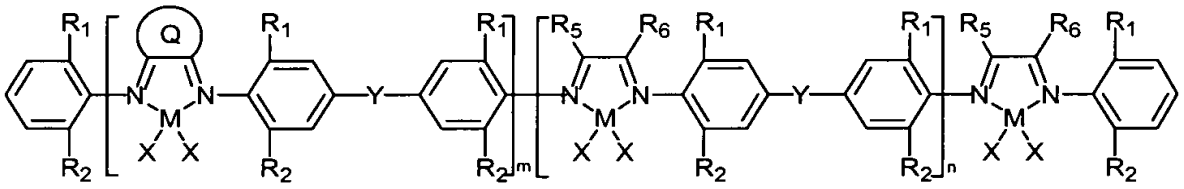
APPENDIX A

1. (Once amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex **[us d as th precursor of the catalyst in polymerizing polyolefine,]** represented by the following formula:



wherein M is Ni; X is Cl or Br; **each of** m and n is independently an integer from 0 to 100, respectively; R_1 and R_2 **[is] are** the same or different, and **[is] are** selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and tert-butyl; Y is CR_3R_4, wherein R_3 and R_4 **[is] are** the same or different, and **[is] are** selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and phenyl, or R_3 and R_4 forming a cyclic alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 **[is] are** the same or different, and **[is] are** selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl and heterocyclic group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula or a mixture thereof: